

April 21, 1896.

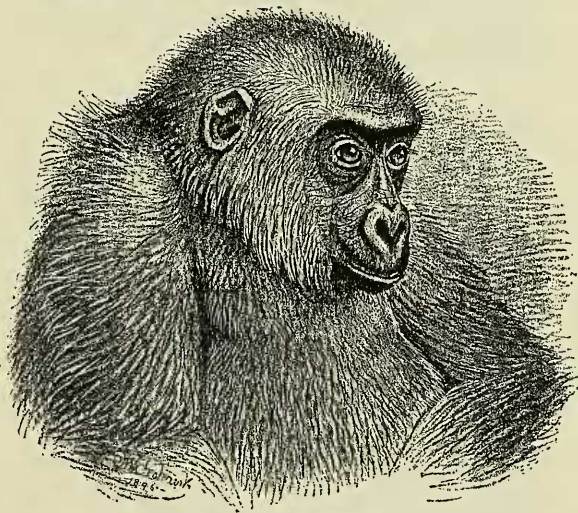
Sir W. H. FLOWER, K.C.B., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March 1896 :—

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March were 86 in number. Of these 33 were acquired by presentation, 38 by purchase, 3 were born in the Gardens, 8 were received on deposit, and 4 in exchange. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 83.

Amongst these special attention was called to :—

1. A fine young female Gorilla (*Anthropopithecus gorilla*), purchased March 6th. This animal (brought home by one of the African Steamship Company's vessels to Liverpool) was obtained at N'gove or Iquela in French Congoland. It is apparently from three to four years old, and is in excellent condition and fairly tame and good-tempered. The only specimen of the Gorilla previously living in the Society's Gardens was the young male acquired in 1887 (see P. Z. S. 1887, p. 559).



Head of female Gorilla, drawn by Frohawk.

(Reduced from 'Field,' vol. lxxxvii. p. 481, 1896, by kind permission.)

2. A young male Markhor (*Capra megaceros*), from the vicinity of Peshawar, British India, presented by Col. Paterson, March 18th.

3. A pair of a rather scarce species of Duiker Antelope (*Cephalophus coronatus*), from West Africa, received in exchange, March 23rd.

4. A Silver-backed Fox (*Canis chama*), from Cape Colony, presented by C. W. Southey, Esq., of Culmstock, Schoombie Station, South Africa.

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Mr. Selater exhibited some of the specimens from Nyasaland lately sent home by Sir H. H. Johnston, K.C.B., to be transmitted to the British Museum. Amongst these was a very fine head of a male Sable Antelope (*Hippotragus niger*), from the Zomba Plains, of which the horns measured 39 inches along the curve; and a fine specimen of a peculiar form of the Brindled Gnu (*Connochates gorgon*), shot at the south end of Lake Chilwa by Mr. H. C. McDonald, of the British Central African Administration. This was believed to be the first example of the Gnu sent home from British East Africa.

Amongst the birds sent on this occasion (as kindly determined by Capt. Shelley) were examples of *Grus carunculata* from the Shirwa Plains, not previously transmitted from Nyasaland, and of *Sarcidiornis melanonota* from Lake Shirwa.

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Mr. Selater also exhibited a fine pair of horns of the so-called *Antilope triangularis* (Günther, P. Z. S. 1889, p. 73), *Dorotoceros triangularis* (Lydekker, Ann. & Mag. N. H. (6) viii. p. 192; id. 'Field,' lxxviii. p. 130 (1891)), belonging to Mr. Justice Hopley of Kimberley. Mr. Justice Hopley, who had purchased these horns at Kimberley, stated that they were said to have been obtained somewhere on the Zambesi. Mr. Selater was of the opinion (which was now generally prevalent) that they were abnormal horns of a cow Eland.

[P.S., April 24th.—Since I exhibited these horns I have compared them with the typical specimens of *Antilope triangularis* in the British Museum. There can be no doubt that both pairs belong to the same species of Antelope, but Mr. Justice Hopley's pair are not quite so long, rather more incurved backwards, and less broadly spread; they are also smoother at the base, showing but slight appearances of corrugations.

On comparing these horns, and the portion of the skull attached to them, with the horns of the ordinary female Eland, *Oreas canna*, I see nothing whatever to negative the idea that they are abnormal horns of that Antelope, which for some reason or other have grown without making the ordinary twist characteristic of *Oreas* and other genera of the *Tragelaphinae*.—P. L. S.]

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